

Tetanus toxoid: This is a vaccine; a 1 c.c. injection under the skin gives the lamb a strong and lasting immunity against tetanus.

A close watch should be kept on the lamb flock for at least three weeks after marking.

If cases of tetanus occur during this period, it is advisable to administer anti-toxin to all marked lambs. This gives an immediate protection for lambs still unaffected by the disease.

To keep lamb marking diseases at a minimum:—

- Mark lambs in clean temporary yards.
- Turn the lambs out into a fresh green paddock after marking.
- Use a sharp knife and place it in a disinfectant solution when not in use.
- Do not use dressings which will delay healing.
- Keep a close watch on the lamb flock for at least three weeks after marking.
- If cases of tetanus occur after marking, administer the anti-toxin to all lambs in the flock.

LAMBS NEED DRENCHING AT WEANING

RECENT losses among young lambs due to heavy infestations of black scour worm (*Trichostrongylus* species) have indicated that this year the problem of worms in weaners may be more troublesome than usual.

For this reason flock owners would be well advised to drench lambs at weaning with one of the several good drenches available to them.

Heavy worm burdens are often responsible for ill-thrift and in some cases death of weaners during the spring and early summer.

Department of Agriculture investigations over the past several years have shown that lambs do acquire significantly heavy worm burdens by the time they reach weaning age.

Successful drenching demands good equipment, close attention to dose rates and careful handling of stock. This can be particularly important with weaners.

Serious stock losses have been caused by inadequate drenching equipment, particularly when the drenching gun has not been fitted with an oesophageal tube. Examination of weaners lost after drenching over the past few months showed that damage to the back of the throat was almost inevitable when an ill-equipped drenching gun was used. Subsequent infection and death could soon follow in these cases.

Bad equipment and lack of care account for almost every case of drenching loss.

Another common cause of losses at drenching time is the use of wrong dose rates.